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## ATA

Last modified: April 19, 2002

Short for *Advanced Technology Attachment*, a disk drive implementation that integrates the controller on the disk drive itself. There are several versions of ATA, all developed by the *Small Form Factor (SFF) Committee*:

- **ATA:** Known also as IDE, supports one or two hard drives, a 16-bit interface and PIO modes 0, 1 and 2.
- **ATA-2:** Supports faster PIO modes (3 and 4) and multiword DMA modes (1 and 2). Also supports logical block addressing (LBA) and block transfers. ATA-2 is marketed as *Fast ATA* and Enhanced IDE (EIDE).
- **ATA-3:** Minor revision to ATA-2.
- **Ultra-ATA:** Also called *Ultra-DMA*, *ATA-33*, and *DMA-33*, supports multiword DMA mode 3 running at 33 MBps.
- **ATA/66:** A version of ATA proposed by Quantum Corporation, and supported by Intel, that doubles ATA's throughput to 66 MBps.
- **ATA/100:** An updated version of ATA/66 that increases data transfer rates to 100 MBps.

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currently used by hard disks (and other devices). Provides sections about the IDE/ATA and SCSI interfaces. This page is from "The PC Guide."

### Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment Interface

Describes IDE/ATA standards and features, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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## IDE interface

Last modified: July 9, 2001

Abbreviation of either *Intelligent Drive Electronics* or *Integrated Drive Electronics*, depending on who you ask. An IDE interface is an interface for mass storage devices, in which the controller is integrated into the disk or CD-ROM drive.

Although it really refers to a general technology, most people use the term to refer the ATA specification, which uses this technology. Refer to ATA for more information.

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For internet.com pages about **IDE interface** **CLICK HERE**. Also check out the following links!

**LINKS**
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**Hard Disk Interfaces and Configuration**

Describes the different major interface standards currently used by hard disks (and other devices). Provides sections about the IDE/ATA and SCSI interfaces. This page is from "The PC Guide."

**Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment (IDE/ATA) Interface**

Describes IDE/ATA standards and feature sets, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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## Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment Interface

Describes IDE/ATA standards and features, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

## IDE Device Setup / Autodetection

Describes the BIOS settings that control the setup of IDE/ATA devices (particularly hard disk drives). This page is from "The PC Guide".

## Hard Disk BIOS and Capacity Factors

Describes issues related to how the BIOS and operating system interact with the hard disk, and BIOS-related issues and problems. Includes a full look at the many capacity limitations inherent in using IDE/ATA interface drives, and other BIOS restrictions on hard disk capacity. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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